

**John Caldwell Calhoun to Andrew Jackson, December 24, 1819, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson.  
Edited by John Spencer Bassett.**

**SECRETARY CALHOUN TO JACKSON.**

War Department, December 24, 1819.

*Sir.* Before my return to this City, the president had directed preparatory arrangements for the military occupation of the Florida's, if such should be the pleasure of Congress, which were communicated to you, on the 22nd Ult, by the chief clerk of this department. As it is probable Congress will direct such occupation during the present Session, I have further to require your early report of the number and distribution of the troops of your Division, which may be promptly carried into such a campaign; as those, together with the Light artillery, and 2nd Infantry of the North Division, it is believed will furnish a competent force to accomplish such object, and the President is not disposed to employ militia, if it can be avoided.

You will furnish a plan of campaign, designating the points of Rendezvous for the troops of the North Division (an efficient force of more than one thousand men, which must be transported by water), as well as the points for concentrating those of the 7th and 8th Departments, if it is deemed proper to occupy more than one station. All your views and estimates are necessary, and it is desirable to have them, as much in detail as convenient, that the subsistence, ordnance and quarter masters Departments may be directed to hold all supplies in readiness for the most prompt and efficient co.operation under the further orders from this department.

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You will see the necessity of your early report, as we shall here, be apprised of the measures of Congress two or three weeks before orders can reach you, and that time will be improved by the Subordinate departments in placing the supplies at the points that may be designated.

I have the honor to be